

the Chatterbox

Summer 2009



www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com

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Mission Statement

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department shall exist to serve the leisure and recreational needs of the residents and tourists of the county. We will strive to be the leader in providing well-maintained, high-quality passive parks and facilities, excellent programs and services, and the preservation of greenspace to enhance the quality of life in the county.

Park Board Meetings

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation park board meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Cool Creek Nature Center Auditorium, located at 2000-1 East 151st Street in Carmel. The meetings are open to the public.

Park Hours

All parks operated by Hamilton County Parks and Recreation are open 365 days a year from dawn to dusk. Some sections of the park may be closed due to special events or shelter reservations. Please refer to *The Chatterbox* or call the administration office.

The Chatterbox is distributed in March, June, September, and December. If you would like to be on our mailing list or have an address change, please call the Administration Office at 317-770-4400.

Proud member of:



For info on other parks visit:
www.hampa.org www.inpra.org

Director's Dialog

Greetings and welcome to the Summer 2009 Chatterbox! As you probably know, NBC has recently premiered their new hit show, *Parks and Recreation*. If you have not had the opportunity to see this show yet, most of this won't make much sense, and for that I apologize.



The show has been slow to grow on me. You will have to give me an episode or two to get used to seeing my profession, that I love so much, mockumentaried (English and journalism teachers please forgive me, I think I just made up a new word). I have recently spoken with a few lawyers, doctors, and nurses and they tell me I'll get used to it. Being new to this, my first thought was, "Oh no, what if people really think this is what park and recreation departments are like". However, after some reflection, and after giving society a little more credit for being able to sort through the truth, accuracy, and humor in a mockumentary, I have relaxed and will share my thoughts. These caricatures bring home some truths. A large part of our job in parks and recreation is making our community a better place to live, whether it is by turning a small eye sore into a neighborhood park or preserving large areas of green space. It is a part of our job and something our staff doesn't take lightly. It is important for public officials to remember there is always truth in perception. It doesn't matter if you work for government or in a small business office, you will always have to deal with personalities and politics. The real trick is taking the time to learn and appreciate all opinions and views and to seek the win-win. And finally, in parks and recreation we like to use the motto "our job is fun". For the most part, we park professionals find our jobs to be fun, but in the end, our goal is to do our job so that our community will be a fun place to live. If *Parks and Recreation* can provide a little fun and a laugh or two, even in your living room at our expense, on a Thursday evening, we are still doing our job. But, promise not to spend too much time in front of the TV.

Again, this summer your Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department staff has worked hard to provide an outstanding selection of activities for those of you that prefer your recreation outside of the TV with the real professionals. Our concert series and nature activities highlight that list. We also offer great opportunities for those of you that would like to volunteer. If golf is your interest, make sure to add the US Senior Open at Crooked Stick to your list. Whatever your interest, you can find it in Hamilton County.

See you in the parks.

Al Patterson

Park News

Stroller Strides @ Cool Creek and Coxhall Gardens



Stroller Strides will be holding classes at Cool Creek Park and Coxhall Gardens this summer! Stroller Strides is a total fitness program for

moms that they can do with their babies. It includes power walking/running and intervals of body strengthening and toning using the stroller, exercise tubing and the environment.

Classes are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Coxhall Gardens and Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Cool Creek Park. First WEEK is FREE!

In addition to the classes, Stroller Strides offers playgroups and moms night out, giving women an opportunity to socialize and further relationships. Please contact Tiffany Sabens at tiffanysabens@strollerstrides.net or 317.919.7258 for further information and to sign up for your FREE WEEK!

Deputy Director Graduates from IUEDP

Chris Stice, the Deputy Director, has graduated from the Indiana University Executive Development Program this past April. This two-year Executive Development Program is hosted by the Indiana University School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation in Bloomington, Indiana. Training ranged on topics of Legal Liability, Operation Efficiencies and Effectiveness, Diversity, Marketing Trends in Technology, Health and Wellness, Green Initiatives, Maintaining Service Levels, Trail Development/Trends in Park Design, Human Resources, Leadership and Team Management.

Staff Members Get Certified

In March, the department hosted the National Playground Safety Institute at the Cool Creek Nature Center. The department congratulates Gary Knowlton for becoming certified. The certification is offered by the National Recreation and Park Association, through the National Playground Safety Institute. CPSI's are certified to inspect Playgrounds for safety issues; making sure that each playground they inspect, maintain, install or administer is up to current national standards, developed by the ASTM and CPSC.

Another congratulations goes out to Kurtis Baumgartner and Bruce Oldham. They are now Certified Park and Recreation Professionals. This certification is also offered through the National Recreation and Park Association.



Park Programs

Summer Exhibit: *Summer Sense-ations*

Summer is here and we are celebrating at the Cool Creek Nature Center! Our exhibit will feature information about the delightful creatures and plants that overwhelm our senses during this fascinating season. There are displays on hummingbirds, butterflies, and dragonflies that fill the summer sky with their beauty and grace. We will also explore the firefly, which puts on a show for our enjoyment during summer evenings. While inside, guests can also check-out the "Learning Tree," do a free daily craft, enjoy our Wildlife Viewing Area, and participate in scavenger hunts. For more information, please call the Cool Creek Nature Center at 317-848-0576.

Dates: June 22-August 30
(Nature Center closed on July 3, 4; August 20 @ noon)
Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.
Cost: Free
Ages: All

Pajama-Rama

Put on your cutest pair of pajamas, grab your favorite teddy bear, pack an old blanket, and join us for Pajama-Rama! Families looking for a fun program to enjoy with toddlers and preschoolers will love the music educator from Moriah Music who will lead us in songs and stories about some of our favorite animals.

Dates: June 5, August 7
(Note: There is no program in July.)
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Ages: Best for families with children ages 1-7
Pre-registration: Yes, call 317-848-0576 or email at ccnc@co.hamilton.in.us
Location: Cool Creek Nature Center

COOL CREEK SUMMER NATURE PROGRAMS

Hey kids! Here's your chance to explore the great outdoors at Cool Creek Park. There will be nature-related exploration, crafts, and puppet shows during these one-hour programs. Pre-registration is required and is available by phone at the Cool Creek Nature Center or via e-mail. Required registration information includes name of child, age of child, program title, and program time. Additional information will be distributed upon registration confirmation. Children can only attend each topic once. A limited number of spaces are available, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so register today!

Ages: 3-10
Cost: Free
Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-848-0576 or ccnc@co.hamilton.in.us
Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park



Magnificent Mammals - Join our camp staff as we learn about some of Indiana's Mammals!

Monday June 29, 2009
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Indiana Rocks! - Roll on over for this program; it's a real gem!

Tuesday, June 30
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Creek Stomp - A wonderfully wet program for all! Let our staff lead you through the beautiful waters of Cool Creek. *Bring your bucket and net or borrow some of ours!*

Wednesday, July 1
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Buggin' Out - Join our camp staff on a bug hunt and learn about common "buggy sounds" in your backyard!

Thursday, July 2
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Bird Banding Demonstration

Join Dr. Ron Weiss, Executive Director of the Chipper Woods Bird Observatory, for a fascinating journey into the world of wild birds. Learn techniques that field scientists use to safely capture, handle, and release wild birds, as well as how to examine them to determine their age, sex, health, molt, and feather condition. These techniques are employed by scientists every day around the world to study the lives, ecology, and movements of wild birds to generate data useful for conservation of wild birds and their habitats. All birds are safely captured, banded, and released unharmed.

Dates: Saturday, June 20
Saturday, July 25
Saturday, August 22

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Vessels with Earth and Fire- Making Replica Prehistoric Pottery

Pottery is one of the most important artifact types and a fascinating technology. Come learn how to make earthenware pottery from "wild" clays fired in an open fire that can actually be used for cooking. We will learn the process from digging clay to cooking in the finished vessels, and everyone will have the opportunity to make a vessel to keep.

Date: Saturday, June 20 (8 hr workshop)
Saturday June 27 (2 hour follow up for firing)

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on June 20
4:00 - 7:00 p.m. on June 27

Ages: Adults and children 10 years old and up

Cost: \$30

Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556
Deadline is June 17.

Location: Taylor Center of Natural History, Strawtown Koteewi Park

Neighborhood Nesters

Join a Hamilton County Park Naturalist and members of the Amos W. Butler Audubon Society as we talk about bird nests and discover facts about the different kinds of birds that nest in our area. Did you know that Chimney Swifts use their sticky saliva to glue their nests together? Many more amazing construction methods will be discussed. Legally collected nests will be included in the program and a short hike will follow!

Date: Saturday, June 20

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Coxhall Garden's Children's Garden Tours

Take a tour of the Children's Garden located at Coxhall Gardens with a Naturalist and discover the inspiration behind this magical little spot. All sorts of ideas went into designing this play area and our Naturalist will let you in on the story as we walk around and "play" in the area. This program will meet at the entrance of the Children's Garden.

Dates: Friday, June 25
Friday, July 17
Friday, August 7

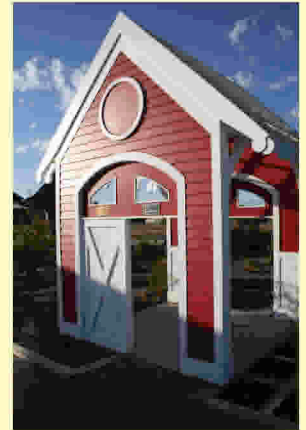
Time: 11:00 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Coxhall Gardens



Adventures in Archaeology

Want to know what archaeology is all about? Get dirty and learn what really goes on in the field with our simulated excavation. Please come dressed for digging!

Date: Thursday, June 25

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Ages: 6-13

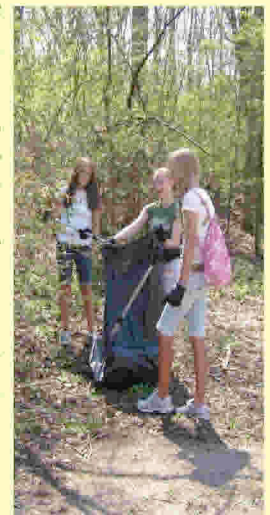
Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556 or via e-mail at tcnh@co.hamilton.in.us

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park

Cool Creek Clean-up Day!

We are looking for a crew of community members to help us clean up Cool Creek and the Park! This event will be great for scouts, families, and other organizations or individuals looking help improve our park while having fun and beating the heat! Be prepared to get wet as we remove tires, metal, and other trash from the creek. Old, closed-toed shoes that do not slip on or off are **mandatory** for those in the creek. Individuals not interested in getting in the creek can help us remove trash and invasive species along the banks of the creek. Refreshments will be provided for all volunteers! Please check-in inside the Cool Creek Nature Center.



Date: Saturday, July 11

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Ages: All

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park

Ancient Artists

Explore the various ways past cultures created and communicated through art! Participants will learn about different examples of Native American art and also create their own projects using ancient methods.

Date: Tuesday, July 14

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Ages: 6-13

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556 or via e-mail at tcnh@co.hamilton.in.us

Location: Taylor Center of Natural History, Strawtown, Koteewi Park

Paleoindian and Early Archaic People of Indiana

Andy White of the University of Michigan will give a presentation about the Paleoindian and Early Archaic peoples who called central Indiana home thousands of years ago. He will talk about the tools and weapons left behind by these people and what these distinctive artifacts can tell us about the earliest residents of our area. If you have a personal artifact collection from central Indiana, bring it!

Date: Sunday, July 19

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Ages: Best for families with school aged kids and adults

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Taylor Center of Natural History, Strawtown Koteewi Park

Puppets Are Popping Up At Cool Creek Park

Come laugh and learn with Miss Diane Breier and her puppet pals this summer. Audience members will enjoy the fun nature-themed stories she has in store!

Dates: Thursday, August 13

Thursday, August 27

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Cost: Free

Ages: Best for ages 2-6

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Bugs; the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

What could be lurking in your backyard garden? Join Kristy Stultz, USDA PPQ Technician, for an interactive presentation on backyard bugs. Learn about the bugs that we love and enjoy, like butterflies and discuss the bugs we DON'T love, like the mosquito. Plus, get the latest information on the Emerald Ash Borer and the Gypsy Moth, two invasive species that are harming our landscapes.

Date: Saturday, August 15

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: Older Children and Adults

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Nature Center, Cool Creek Park

Cool Creek Campfires

Join us around the campfire beside Cool Creek for songs, presentations, and marshmallows. Cindy Baney, vocalist and music educator with Moriah Music, will start the evening off with some music. Special speakers will then entertain guests each week with topics about snakes, birds, turtles, and more. Hang out with your family and friends during these special Wednesday evenings under the stars. Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Dates: June 10, 17, 24; July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Ages: All

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park

Animal Adaptations / June 10

Every animal has an amazing set of adaptations which allow them to live in their environment. Join Mark Booth of Take Flight Wildlife Education and meet several live animals that illustrate these adaptations in the amazing animal world!

Amazing World of Animals / June 17

Animals from all over the world will be at our campfire ring on this night. Larry Battson, wildlife educator and handler, will talk to us about animal lives, conservation, and much more.

Tarantula Teacher / June 24

Learn what teacher Dr. Barbara Reger has to tell us about our creepy-crawly, eight-legged friends.

WILD Backyards / July 1

Kathy Hershey, biologist and president of Utopia Wildlife, will be bringing a few of the animals that share our neighborhoods backyards. We could all benefit from learning a little more about the fascinating critters that share our neighborhoods.

Snakes Alive! / July 8

Snakehead-Ed will be bringing lots of snakes to show the audience. This "hands-on" experience will be one you won't want to miss.

Turtles and Other Friends / July 15

Join HCPR as we welcome the Turtle Lady all the way from Ohio. The only thing she likes better than turtles and children is sharing her turtles *with* children!

Really Dangerous Animals / July 22

Alligator Aaron of Silly Safari will be talking about some dangerous animals. What kind of animals do you think you'll see? Be sure to make it to this exhilarating show!

What Bugs You? / July 29

Alligator Aaron of Silly Safari is coming tonight to take us on a buggy adventure! As we shoo the swarming bugs from around our faces, Aaron will be helping us discover some cool facts about them.

Summer Camps



Kamp Koteewi

At Kamp Koteewi you'll become a pioneer, a geologist, an archaeologist, and a naturalist all in one week! The prairie, woods, and waters of Strawtown Koteewi Park will become our discovery playground as we hike, play games, and make crafts. Each day we'll explore a unique animal habitat and learn about the Native American cultures that once lived at Strawtown. Join our talented staff this summer for a fun outdoor adventure!



Kamp Koteewi Session 1

Dates: June 15-19

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Ages: 8-10

Fee: \$70

Pre-Registration Info: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556 or email tcnh@co.hamilton.in.us

Registration Deadline: June 11, 2009

Kamp Koteewi Session 2

Dates: July 20-24

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Ages: 8-10

Fee: \$70

Pre-Registration Info: Yes, by calling 317-984-5556 or email tcnh@co.hamilton.in.us

Registration Deadline: July 13, 2009

Registration Information for Camps at SKP

To register your child for a Day Camp a registration form, waiver, and photo release must be completed by the day of registration. Registration packets are available at our website, www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com, or can be obtained by calling the Taylor Center of Natural History. Each registration packet consists of multiple pages.

Parents can only sign their child up for one session of the age appropriate camp and children are only permitted to attend the camp for their designated age group. A limited number of spaces are available, and registration for each camp and session is on a first-come, first served basis.



Celebrate Archaeology Month at Strawtown Koteewi Park

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department, are proudly sponsoring Archaeology Month here in Hamilton County again this fall. Indiana University Purdue University-Fort Wayne will be on site conducting archaeological surveys which will be open to the public! Also, our Naturalist staff will be available for site tours and discussions about the site and the Native American groups who once occupied the area.

Pre-registered group tours will take place at the Taylor Center of Natural History located at Strawtown Koteewi Park. Organized groups such as school field trips, scouts, and adult clubs are welcome as well as smaller family and citizen groups.

This exciting opportunity is great for all ages and is being offered in celebration of Indiana's Archaeology Month for a short time only. For more information or to pre-register for an archaeology field trip or tour, please call Amanda Smith, Supt. of Natural Resources and Education at 317-848-0576. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so please confirm early. Scheduled tours including an active archaeological survey will end at the Strawtown Koteewi Park on October 3.

Dates: September 13-October 3

Days: Tuesday-Saturday

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: Yes, 317-848-0576 or email ads@co.hamilton.in.us



Special Events

Coxhall Concerts in the Centerpiece presented by



St. Vincent
Carmel Hospital

Enjoy a Sunday evening relaxing with friends at the beautiful Coxhall Gardens. While listening to the areas best music, visit with family and friends. Picnicking is welcome. Join us for these free concerts on the following dates:

Sunday, June 21 • Cocktail Sax Band

Sunday, July 19 • Gust Spenos Quartet

Sunday, August 16 • Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Location: Coxhall Gardens



Beach Bash

Beaches, sunbathing, and fun are the perfect combination for summertime! Our annual Beach Bash is the perfect way to enjoy summer! This summer party is back for three dates this summer, and we are ready for you to have some fun! Activities include a DJ, games, contests, swimming, and tons of sun!

Note: Each bash is strictly limited to 200 people, so make sure you come early or expect to wait in line for people to leave!! Also, please note the time change.

Dates: Wednesday, June 24; July 15; August 5

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Location: Morse Park and Beach

Morse Summer Triathalon

The second annual Morse Summer Triathalon is back! Take part in a 600 meter swim, 13 mile bike, and 3 mile run. To register or for more info, please visit www.tuxbro.com

Dates: Saturday, June 27

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Ages: 14 years and up

Cost: \$60 per person, \$90 per team, before June 21

\$65 per person or \$95 per team, on or after June 22

Registration: www.tuxbro.com

Location: Morse Park and Beach

Jukebox Saturday

Go back to the times of poodle skirts and slicked back hair! Our annual oldies event is a great way to re-live the days of the 50's and 60's. The agenda of activities includes a classic car show, oldies music, and many contests and games for people of all ages!

Date: Saturday, August 22

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Location: Cool Creek Park

Do you have a classic car you want to show off?

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department is looking for classic cars! If you have a classic car that you are proud of and interested in showing off, then Jukebox Saturday is the fun and FREE way to do it! Please call Michele Dixon at 317-770-4400 or more information.





COOL CREEK concert series

presented by

 St. Vincent
Carmel Hospital

June 19



The Flying Toasters with Ribs n Bones

June 26



Scott DuBose and the 101 Ranch with Jesse Brown

July 10



After Midnight with Jeremy Vogt

July 17



Casey Jamerson with Seth Cook

July 24



Polkaboy with Meisterwinds

Gates open at 6:00p.m. Concerts begin at 6:45 p.m.
Adults - \$5, Students - \$3, Kids under 12 are free
Cool Creek Park is located at 2000 East 151st Street, Carmel/Westfield.

For more info, call 317-770-4400 or visit www.myhamiltoncountyparks.com

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Nature Hikes

Beginning Bird Hikes

Birds are fascinating and watching them can be an awe-inspiring experience. This is a great opportunity for bird-watchers of all levels. You may begin anytime during the season and come as often as you like. Pre-registration is not required. Don't forget your binoculars!

Cool Creek Park: These hikes meet in the north parking lot of Cool Creek Park; past the Nature Center.

Dates: June 10, 14, 17, 24, 28; July 8, 12, 15, 22, 26, 29; August 9, 12, 19, 23, 26

Days: Wednesday and every other Sunday (with the exception of the first Wednesday of each month)

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Strawtown Koteewi Park: These hikes will meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History.

Dates: June 3; July 1; August 5

Time: 8:30 a.m.

National Trails Day Hike

Potter's Bridge Park and the White River Greenway Trail are popular destinations for hikers, runners, and nature enthusiasts from all over the county. Let our Naturalist show you around the trails as we celebrate National Trails Day! This hike will meet just inside Potter's Bridge.

Date: Saturday, June 6

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Potter's Bridge Park

Strawtown Enclosure- Native American Village Tours

Our interpretive staff will be conducting tours of the Enclosure. During these tours we will discuss the details known thus far regarding the Native Americans who built and used the enclosure and village over 700 years ago. For more information, please contact us at 317-984-5556.

Dates: Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Ages: All

Pre-registration: No

Note: A tour will not be offered on July 4. The building is closed.

Star and Satellite Gazing Tours

Join Dr. Ronald Weiss, adjunct professor of Astronomy and Earth Science for Vincennes University, for a fascinating evening of star and satellite watching. Amateur astronomer Dan Malone, of Wabash Valley Astronomical Society, will be assisting Dr. Weiss as the group learns about and attempts to view the stars, planets, constellations, satellites, and deep sky objects that are visible each month. In the event that the sky is cloudy, an indoor astronomy program is planned. You are welcome to bring your own telescope or binoculars, but we ask that pets are left at home. This program will meet near the Taylor Center of Natural History.

Dates: Saturday, June 20; July 25; August 22

Time: 9:00 p.m.

Ages: Best for families with school aged children and adults

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park

Woodland Wildflower Hike

Join a Naturalist as we hike Cool Creek Park in search of woodland wildflowers and plants. As we seek out these beautiful, shade-loving species, we will discuss interesting folklore and stories associated with them. This hike will begin inside the Cool Creek Nature Center.

Date: Saturday, August 1

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Ages: All

Cost: Free

Pre-registration: No

Location: Cool Creek Park

Sense the Night Hike

As the world we know falls asleep, a whole new world awakens! Join us on a night time walk to discover the unique adaptations of nocturnal animals living in the prairie and woods. Put your human senses to the test! We'll play fun games, practice our owl calls, and look for animals. Dress for an evening outdoors and meet at the Taylor Center of Natural History.

Dates: Saturday, August 22

Time: 9:00 p.m.

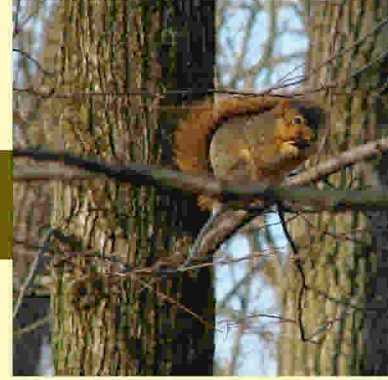
Cost: No

Ages: All

Pre-Registration: No

Location: Strawtown Koteewi Park

White River Campground



Family Fun Nights

Join us at White River Campground for family fun nights! One night a month, we will entertain you and your family. Various entertainers will be there throughout the season to make your stay more enjoyable. For more information, please call the campground at 317-984-2705.

Dates: May 23

Live Music

Head over to the main picnic shelter for some live music from local band, *Good Karma!*

June 6

Live Music

Head over to the main picnic shelter for some live music from local band, *The Shademen!*

June 13

Kids Fest

We'll keep the kids entertained with an art and craft, and the bounce house. *Open Season* will also be shown on the big screen in the front lawn.

July 4

Live Music

Head over to the main picnic shelter for some live music.

July 18

Christmas in July

Unpack your holiday decorations and deck out your campsite for this out of ordinary weekend! We'll offer "sleigh" rides, a Christmas movie, and a possible appearance from Santa!

August 1

Kids Fest

Kids activities will entertain the little ones for this fun night! A craft will also be available, as well as the bounce house.

September 5

Outdoor Movie

Pack up the lawn chairs and head to the front lawn for an outdoor movie!

October 17

Halloween

Trick or Treating, campsite decoration contest, and hayrides will be taking over the campground.

Operating Dates:

April 15- October 31

Location:

11299 East 234th Street
Cicero, IN

Amenities:

100 modern campsites
7 primitive campsites
water, electric & sewer hook-ups
camp store, includes bait and tackle
recreation room
restrooms
shower facility
laundry facility
playground
picnic shelter
White River access

**Reservations are now being accepted
for the 2009 and 2010 camping
season. Please call 317-984-2705 for
your reservation.**

CAMP SITE / FACILITY	DAILY		WEEKLY	
	Hamilton County	Out of County	Hamilton County	Out of County
Full Hook-up	\$18	\$20	\$108	\$120
Electric and Water	\$17	\$19	\$102	\$114
Primitive Site	\$14	\$15	\$84	\$90
Day Visitor	\$1	\$2	N/A	N/A
Recreation Room Rental	\$60	\$70	N/A	N/A
Shelter House Rental	\$60	\$70	N/A	N/A
Boat Launch	\$3	\$5	N/A	N/A
Dump Station	\$5	\$6	N/A	N/A



Rental Facilities



Osprey Pointe Pavilion

Planning a shower, wedding reception, or any other special event? Our indoor rental facility at Morse Park and Beach is looking good and waiting for to you to rent! Osprey Pointe is located on the bank of Morse Reservoir with a beautiful view of the water and sunset. The facility's seating capacity is 101 people and has a kitchenette and restrooms.

Facility Rental Rate:	\$160.50 for 4 hours
Non-resident Rate:	\$240.75 for 4 hours
Additional Hours:	\$42.80 per hour
Damage Deposit:	\$100
Alcohol Deposit:	\$400

Rental Rates include an on-site security guard and use of all tables and chairs.

Coxhall Gardens Centerpiece and Cripe Pavilion

Looking for a beautiful and serene location to hold your upcoming wedding and reception? The Coxhall Gardens Centerpiece is now ready to rent for weddings, wedding receptions, and any other special event you may have on your calendar. Rental is available from April through October.

Three hour Centerpiece rental: \$1,800
 Centerpiece and Cripe Pavilion rental: \$2,500
 Cripe Pavilion rental only: \$2,250

For more information and to rent this facility, please call Ritz Charles at 317-846-9158.



Cripe Pavilion, Coxhall Gardens

Park Shelters

Looking for a place to have a picnic and enjoy the warm weather? Our affordable picnic shelters are a perfect way to have a get-together! Shelter rental is available from May 1 until September 30.

- Shelter rentals are for all-day use.
- No refunds.
- We accept cash, check, money order, VISA or Mastercard.

To rent a shelter, please call 317-770-4400

Cool Creek Park	Shelter Size	County Resident	Non-County Resident
Shelter A,B,C,D	20' x 30'	\$50 + tax	\$80 + tax

- Grill located at each shelter.
- Shelters hold approximately 50 people.

Morse Park and Beach	Shelter Size	County Resident	Non-County Resident
Shelter A,C,D	20' x 30'	\$50 + tax	\$80 + tax
Shelter B	30' x 40'	\$100 + tax	\$140 + tax

- Grill located at each shelter.
- Shelters A, C, and D hold approximately 50 people.
- Shelter B holds approximately 100 people.

At-a-Glance: A Summer Full of Fun



June

	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6
			Beginning Bird Hike@ SKP		Pajama Rama	National Trails Day Hike
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike			Enclosure Tour
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike		Cool Creek Concert	Bird Banding Demo Enclosure Tour Star/Satellite Tour
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Coxhall Concert Enclosure Tour	Summer Exhibit Begins		Beach Bash Beginning Bird Hike	Adventures in Archaeology	Cool Creek Concert Children's Garden Tour	Morse Tri-Athlon Enclosure Tour
28	29	30				
Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour						

July

			1	2	3	4
			Beginning Bird Hike@ SKP		Facilities Closed	Facilities Closed
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike		Cool Creek Concert	Cool Creek Clean Up Enclosure Tour
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike Beach Bash	Ancient Artists	Cool Creek Concert Children's Garden Tour	Enclosure Tour
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Coxhall Concert People of Indiana Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike		Cool Creek Concert	Bird Banding Demo Star/Satellite Tour Enclosure Tour
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike			

August

						1
						Wildflower Hike Enclosure Tour
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour			Beach Bash Beginning Bird Hike @ SKP		Pajama Rama	Enclosure Tour
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike	Puppet Show	Children's Garden Tour	Bug Program Enclosure Tour
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Coxhall Concert Beginning Bird Hike Enclosure Tour			Beginning Bird Hike	All Facilities Closed at Noon.		Jukebox Saturday Sense the Night Hike Star/Satellite Tour Enclosure Tour
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31		Beginning Bird Hike	Puppet Show		Enclosure Tour

1. Administration Office

15513 South Union Street,
Carmel, 46033
317-770-4400

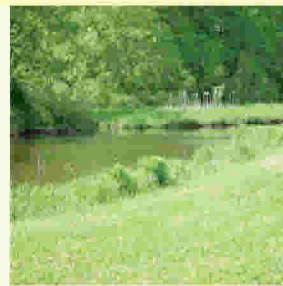
For more information about special events, programs, picnic shelter rentals, and fees or to receive a *Chatterbox* newsletter, call us at 317-770-4400.



5. Geist Park

10979 Florida Rd., Fall Creek
Township

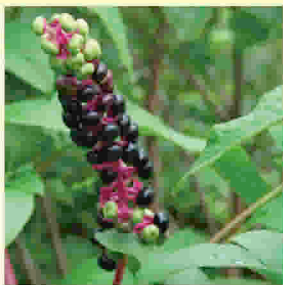
This 17-acre park is nestled along the banks of Fall Creek as it enters Geist Reservoir. It is the perfect spot for wildlife viewing and water recreation, including fishing and canoeing. It is also equipped with a play area, picnic shelter, and restrooms.



2. Bray Family Homestead Park

4528 State Road 38, Noblesville

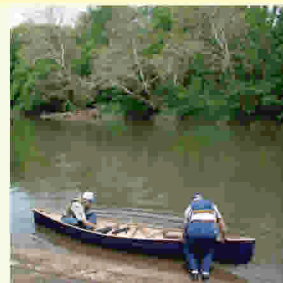
This new 92-acre park was acquired in 2007 from the Bray Family and is still under development. The development of the park will be limited to trails, overlooks, wildlife feeding areas, and new plantings. Please call 317-770-4400 for more information and up-to-date details on the progress



6. Lafayette Trace Park

Strawtown Avenue East, White
River Township

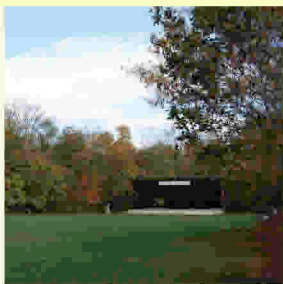
More than 100-acres of land along the White River Greenway in White River Township is currently under development. Current amenities include a canoe launch and parking lot. Please call 317-770-4400 for more information and up-to-date details on the progress of the park.



3. Cool Creek Park

2000 E.151st Street, Carmel, 46033
317-848-0576, CCNC
ccnc@co.hamilton.in.us

This 90-acre park offers a nature-orientated setting for all seasons. Wooded trails span 3-4 miles of beauty and wildlife. There is a playground area and shelter nearby that can be used while children are at play. Four additional shelters are available for picnicking and rentals. This park also provides a home to the Cool Creek Nature Center and the Cool Concert Series.



7. Morse Park and Beach

19777 Morse Park Lane,
Noblesville, 46060
317-776-9743, Morse Beach

Swim, sunbathe, picnic, fish, and play volleyball at Morse Park and Beach. This 23-acre park is also the home of the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department's spring and fall adult softball leagues.



4. Coxhall Gardens

116th and Towne Road, Carmel,
46032

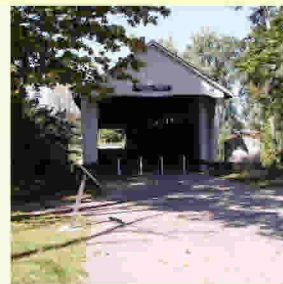
This 125-acre park is one-of-a-kind to the residents, tourists, and visitors of Hamilton County. It includes a children's garden, twin bell towers, centerpiece, lake, and plenty of open space. Future plans include a conservatory, museum, and numerous speciality gardens.



8. Potter's Bridge Park

19401 North Allisonville Road,
Noblesville, 46060

Potter's Covered Bridge, constructed by Josiah Durfee between 1870-71, is the centerpiece of this park. The only remaining covered bridge in Hamilton County, Potter's Bridge was restored in 1999 and surrounded by a 30-acre park. The park also includes a trail that connects to the White River Greenway Trail which runs along the White River.



9. River Road Park

12575 River Road, Carmel, 46033

A two-mile trail, river overlooks, softball and soccer fields, and open space are situated along the banks of the White River at the 63 acre park. An archeological playground, sandbox, and interpretive building are unique attractions designed to educate about native american life.



11. White River Campground

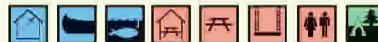
11299 East 234th Street, Cicero

317-984-2705

Open April 15 - October 31

wrc@co.hamilton.in.us

White River Campground offers the perfect spot to spend a getaway weekend in Hamilton County. The campground has 106 modern and primitive campsites along the White River with quiet spots for fishing and canoeing. A 55x35 feet picnic shelter is available for rental to large groups. Laundry facilities, showers, restrooms, campstore, recreation room, and playground make camping at White River Campground a pleasant experience.



10. Strawtown Koteewi Park

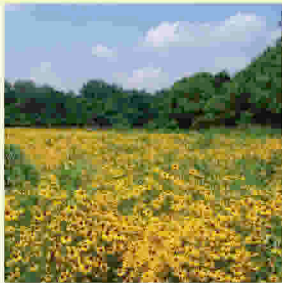
12308 Strawtown Avenue,

Noblesville, 46060

317-984-5556, Taylor Center

tcnh@co.hamilton.in.us

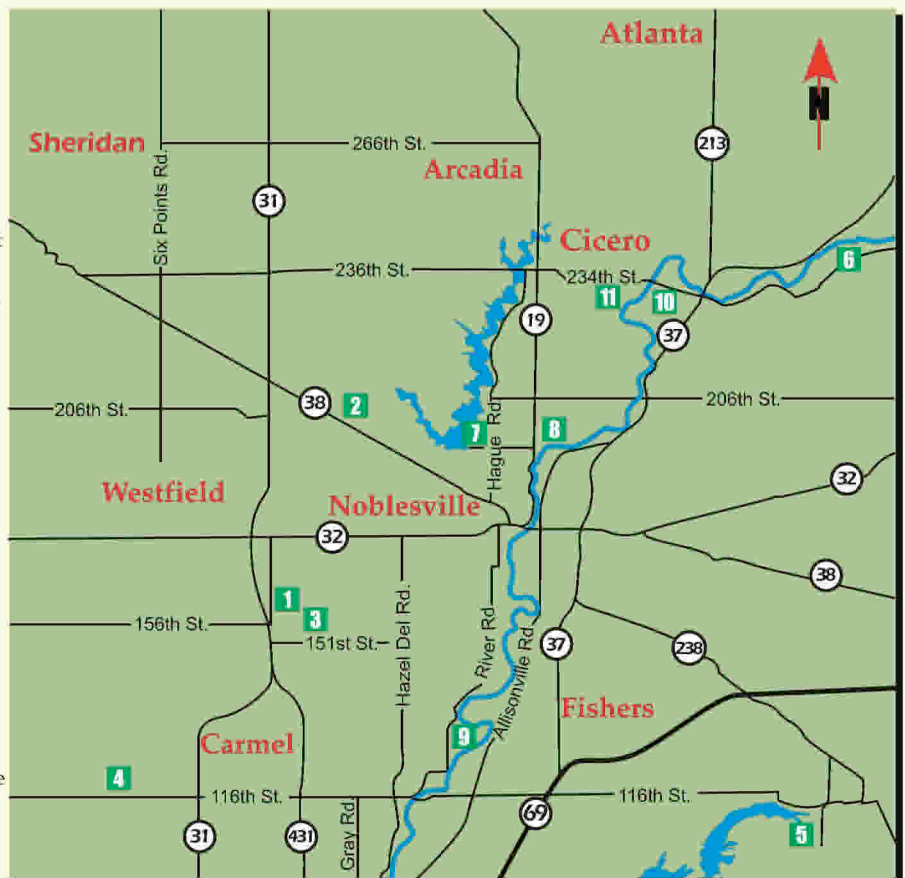
This 750-acre property, which borders 3.25 miles along the White River, is currently under development. Current amenities include the Taylor Center of Natural History, over 5 miles of multi-use trails, and a canoe launch. Please call 317-770-4400 for information and up-to-date details on the progress of the park.



recycles all paper, plastic, cardboard, ink cartridges, batteries, light bulbs, and hazardous waste.

Please join us in helping our earth!

	bathhouse		disc golf
	beach		soccer fields
	boat dock		softball fields
	pool		basketball court
	fishing		volleyball court
	canoe launch		bicycling
	music pavilion		greenspace
	picnic tables		nature trail
	picnic shelters		paved trail
	restrooms		equestrian trail
	playground		camping
			wetland/prairie





Hamilton County Parks and Recreation
15513 South Union Street
Carmel, Indiana 46033

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 209
Westfield, IN



Please recycle *The Chatterbox* when you are finished enjoying it.

Morse Beach

19777 Morse Park Lane, Noblesville
317-776-9743



Free Swim!
Everyday from
4-6 p.m.



Seasonal Hours of Operation

Weekends: May 23-June 7; August 10 - September 6
Daily: June 8 - August 9
Maximum capacity of the beach is 200 people.

Daily Admission

In County Resident
Adults: \$2
3-17 years: \$1.50
2 and under: free

Out of County Resident
Adults: \$3.25
3-17 years: \$2.50
2 and under: free

Season Passes

In County Resident
Individual: \$75
Family of Four: \$100
Additional person: \$10

Out of County Resident
Individual: \$125
Family of Four: \$150
Additional Person: \$10